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Statistics News NSW provides the latest about ABS statistics including new developments, seminars and reviews.

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REGIONAL PROFILES

The second issue of the Regional Profiles will be released in December 1999. The Regional Profiles bring together a range of statistical information from the ABS and other Government agencies. The second issue contains an expanded range of data and includes a Directory of Regional Statistics. Regional Profiles are available for Local Government Areas (LGAs) and regions in NSW. Please contact Merran Butler on (02) 9268 4194 or email m.butler@abs.gov.au

CRIME AND SAFETY

Crime and Safety, NSW (Cat no. 4509.1) is being released on 1 December 1999. Information is available on the experience of crimes, reporting behaviour and perceptions of crime. Offences surveyed include break and enter, attempted break and enter, motor vehicle theft, robbery, assault and sexual assault. For further information contact John Stamolis on (02) 9268 4660 or email john.stamolis@abs.gov.au

ALTERNATE VIEW FOR THE ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

The ABS is developing an alternative view of the waste collection, disposal and management industries. An alternate view refers to the presentation of collected data in a way other than the standard ANZSIC industry based view. The view will expand on the published data of businesses contributing to the industry and present data on the demand for these services. It is anticipated that data will be available at state and national levels. For further information contact Scott Wearne on (02) 9268 4327 or email scott.wearne@abs.gov.au

OLDER PERSONS

Coinciding with the International Year of Older Persons, the ABS will release a social report on *Older People, Australia (Cat no. 4019.0) in December 1999.* This publication draws together and provides analysis and commentary on a wide range of social and demographic characteristics of older people including health, disability, housing, family, income, leisure and community activities. A separate publication presenting information on older people in NSW is scheduled for release in February 2000. For further information contact Andrew Webster on (02) 6252 7030 or email andrew.webster@abs.gov.au

INDIGENOUS BIRTHS

In 1998 there were over 3,000 births registered in NSW with one or both parents identified as being of Indigenous origin. These accounted for 3.5% of all births in NSW. Further characteristics of these births appear in *Births, Australia 1998* (Cat no. 3301.0). Contact Katrina Phelan (02) 6252 6573 or email katrina.phelan@abs.gov.au for further information.

HOUSEHOLD USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A review of the Household Use of Information Technology Survey for 2000 was recently conducted with a focus on the Internet. The development of IT questions for inclusion in the April 2000 Monthly Labour Force Survey program is also underway. The IT questions in this survey will focus on the use of computers and the Internet by children. The sample population in the Monthly Labour Force Survey is large enough to provide an opportunity to present some regional IT statistics. For further information contact Sheridan Roberts on (06) 6252 5019 or email sheridan.roberts@abs.gov.au

REVIEW OF THE IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES

An information paper (Cat. no. 6424.0) is available on the review of both the Import Price Index (IPI) and the Export Price Index (EPI). An objective of this review is to update item weights and also reassess methodological aspects of the indexes. The main purpose of this information paper is to seek user input into clarifying the key uses of the IPI and EPI, and assess the extent to which the indexes satisfy these uses. For further information contact David Collins on facsimile (02) 62527060 or email david.collins@abs.gov.au

BUILDING PRICE INDEXES

The ABS is developing price indexes for building other than house building and engineering construction outputs. These output indexes are to be compiled on a quarterly basis and for each State and Territory. They will measure changes in the price of final output produced by the entities engaged in construction activity. For further information, contact Mark Dubner on (02) 9268 4448 or email mark.dubner@abs.gov.au

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CULTURE AND RECREATION STATISTICS (NCCRS)

The ABS National Centre for Culture and Recreation Statistics (NCCRS) is currently preparing questions for a survey to be conducted in April 2000 on Children's participation in culture and leisure activities. Data from the survey is expected to be available in late 2000. For further details contact Chris Giddings on (08) 8237 7326 or email chris.giddings@abs.gov.au

WE ARE LIVING LONGER

Life expectancy at birth in NSW has reached 75.8 years for males, and 81.6 years for females. While life expectancy has increased for NSW overall, some regional differences in mortality are apparent. An analysis of mortality by Statistical Division shows Sydney with the lowest death rate and North Western with the highest in NSW. This analysis appears in the *Deaths, Australia 1998* (Cat no. 3302.0). Further detail at the Statistical Local Area level will be published in *Demography, NSW 1998* (Cat no. 3311.1) scheduled for release in January 2000. The contact for mortality issues is Paul Atyeo (02) 6525 7612 or email paul.atyeo@abs.gov.au

SURVEY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Developmental work is commencing on the 2001 household based Survey of Education and Training, to be conducted in the first half of 2001. This survey will be largely a repeat of the 1997 survey. Further information is available from Marilyn Henden, (02) 6252 7747 or email merilyn.henden@abs.gov.au

ENVIRONMENT EXPENDITURE ***Environment Expenditure, Local Government, (Experimental Estimates), Australia, 1997–98*** (Cat. no. 4611.0) was released on 9 December 1999. The publication focuses on local governments and their role in providing environmental management for their jurisdiction. The publication highlights financial transactions made by local government on environmental issues. For further information contact Bob Harrison on (02) 6252 7369 or email bob.harrison@abs.gov.au

FREIGHT MOVEMENTS SURVEY **The new version of the ABS Freight Movement Survey (FMS) will be conducted from April 2000.** Results are expected to be available in late 2001. The FMS will collect information on goods transported by rail, sea, air and road within Australia on an annual basis. Contact Eddie Maitland on (07) 3222 6336 or email eddie.maitland@abs.gov.au

ABS HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS PROGRAM REVIEW **During the year ABS consulted extensively with social statistics users in its review of the ABS Household Surveys program.** ABS collects its social statistics from a number of sources including the Population Census, administrative data (such as births or courts), the monthly labour force survey, and a range of general and special social surveys. An outcome of the review was to set out a schedule to collect statistics from its general and special social surveys. Other statistics such as labour force and demographic statistics are still available from other ABS sources. Every 3 years a general social survey will be conducted and will include an Indigenous sample supplement every six years. In addition a multi-purpose household survey covering a range of topics in less detail will be run every two out of three years in response to user needs.

Survey	Frequency	Next Planned
Health	3 yearly	2001
Disability, ageing and carers	6 yearly	2003
Education and training	4 yearly	2001
Household expenditure	6 yearly	2003/04
Income and housing costs	3 yearly	2000/01
Time use	12 yearly	2005/06
Crime and safety	3 yearly	2001/02
Violence against people	12 yearly	2006
Retirement and superannuation	6 yearly	2005
General social survey	3 yearly	2002
General social survey (Indigenous)	6 yearly	2002

For more information on the results of the review please contact Bernard Wong on (02) 9268 4238 or email bernard.wong@abs.gov.au.

STATISTICS NEWS ELECTRONICALLY **You can now access Statistics News NSW electronically.** We can email you an Adobe Acrobat copy of Statistics News NSW for you to add to your intranet. Alternatively you can visit the ABS website at <http://www.abs.gov.au> and access News/Newsletters for a link to the Newsletter. Please contact us for more information.

SELECTED RELEASES SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 1999

To order ABS publications please contact the Bookshop on (02) 9268 4620

1216.0	Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), July 1999 (\$41.00)
1307.1	Economic Indicators, New South Wales, October 1999 (\$16.00)
2009.0	Information Paper: Census of Population and Housing - ABS Views on Census Output Strategy, 2001 (\$10.00)
2041.0	Census of Population and Housing: Occasional Paper - Counting the Homeless, 1996 (\$21.00)
3236.0	Household and Family Projections, Australia, 1996 to 2021 (\$27.00)
3301.0	Births, Australia, 1998 (\$26.00)
3302.0	Deaths, Australia, 1998 (\$23.00)
4177.0	Participation in Sport and Physical Activities, Australia, 1998-99 (\$18.00)
4335.0	Health Insurance Survey, Australia, June 1998 (\$18.00)
4431.0	Disability, Ageing and Carers: User Guide, Australia, 1998 (\$32.00)
4509.0	Crime and Safety, Australia: Supplementary National and Standard Tables, 1998 (\$91.00)
4509.1	Crime and Safety, New South Wales, April 1999 (\$16.00)
4611.0	Environment Expenditure, Local Government, (Experimental Estimates), Australia, 1997-98 (\$17.50)
5510.0	Expenditure on Education in Australia, 1997-98 (\$17.50)
6201.1	Labour Force, New South Wales and ACT, August 1999 (\$21.00)
6293.0.00.003	Occasional Paper: Job Quality and Churning of the Pool of the Unemployed, 1997 (\$33.00)
6424.0	Information Paper: Review of Import Price Index and Export Price Index, Australia, 1999 (\$10.00)
7113.0	Agriculture, Australia, 1997-98 (\$27.00)
7501.0	Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 1998-99, Preliminary (\$15.00)
8129.0	Business Use of Information Technology, 1997-98 (\$17.50)
8141.0	Small and Medium Enterprises, Business Growth and Performance Survey, Australia, 1997-98 (\$20.00)
8152.0	Year 2000 Problem, Australia, June 1999 (\$15.00)
8221.1	Manufacturing Industry, New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory, 1997-98(\$17.50)
8415.0	Mining Operations , Australia, 1997-98 (\$21.00)
8416.0	Directory of Mining Statistics, 1999 (\$42.00)
8551.0	Dental Services, Australia, 1997-98 (\$17.00)
8553.0	Optometry and Optical Dispensing Service, Australia, 1997-98 (\$16.50)
8635.0	Tourist Accommodation, Australia, June Quarter 1999 (\$18.50)
8635.1.40.001	Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, NSW, June Quarter 1999 (\$40.00)
9309.0	Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 October 1998(\$18.00)